



# DE PROFUNDIS 420



De Profundis is archived at  
<http://www.nyx.net/~bgold/deprof.html>

## January 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 LASFS Meeting	4 Open Gaming	5 Estrogen Zone
6 TRIPE	7	8	9	10 LASFS Meeting	11 Open Gaming	12 Cinema Anime
13 BoD Open House	14	15	16 Marketing Committee	17 LASFS Meeting	18 Open Gaming	19 CFO TSPC
20 Time Meddlers	21	22	23	24 LASFS Meeting	25 Open Gaming	26
27 FWEMS	28	29	30	31 LASFS Meeting		

### Legend of Inscrutable Abbreviations

BoD - Board of Directors  
 CFO - Cartoon Fantasy Organization  
 Cinema Anime - Japanimation  
 Estrogen Zone - Ladies Auxiliary Sewing and Fallout Society  
 FWEMS - Fourth Sunday Movies - 2 pm  
 Time Meddlers - Dr. Who Club  
 TRIPE - Temporal Retrieval of Information Programming and Entertainment  
 TSPC - Tom Safer Presents Cartoons - 10 am

CFO - 1 pm to 8 pm  
 Estrogen Zone - 2 pm  
 Marketing Committee - 7:30 pm  
 Time Meddlers - 10:30 am  
 TRIPE - Noon until whenever

### Thursday Program Items

January 3 - Nothing Scheduled  
 January 10 - Nothing Scheduled  
 January 17 - Nothing Scheduled  
 January 24 - Nothing Scheduled  
 January 31 - Nothing Scheduled

### Calendar Details

Asian Cult Cinema - None This Month  
 BoD - 11 am, gaming starts at 2 pm  
 Cinema Anime - 1 pm until it ends

---

## COLOPHON

*De Profundis* 420–December 2007. Editor: Milt Stevens.  
Mailing List and Mailing Labels: Elayne Pelz.

*De Profundis* is the official newsletter of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society (11513 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601, USA). Our telephone number is: (818) 760-9234. Our web site is: [www.lasfs.org](http://www.lasfs.org). *De Profundis* is available to active LASFS members, Patron Friends & Saints of the LASFS, voluntary active LASFS members, and in exchange for other fanzines. VAMs are available for \$10 per year, payable to LASFS, Inc.

Westercon is a service mark of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, Incorporated (LASFS, Inc.), Worldcon and NASFIC are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society (WSFS).

We want any news of interest to LASFS members (no poetry or fiction). Send items to the LASFS address c/o *De Profundis* or leave them in the *De Profundis* mailbox at the clubhouse. The editor, Milt Stevens, can be reached at the clubhouse on Thursday evenings or at his address: [miltstevens@earthlink.net](mailto:miltstevens@earthlink.net). Deadlines are a bit fluid, but mid-month Thursdays are probably it.

Address corrections should be given or sent to the LASFS Treasurer at the clubhouse.

Due to the press of other material there is currently no space available in *De Profundis* for advertising. I will always try to find room to announce upcoming events of interest to members.

Due to space limitations, priority is always given to content mandated in the LASFS by-laws and by any applicable traditions. Also, after that stuff, by what the editor wants to do.

Statements herein are those of the speaker/writer and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the club. Interjections in square brackets [[ ]] are solely the responsibility of the editor.

---

## LASFS OFFICERS

### Elected Procedural Officers

**President:** Marcia Minsky. **Vice-President:** Joan Steward, Mike Thorsen, Tadao Tomomatsu (tag team). **Scribe:** John DeChancie, Joe Zeff (tag team). **Treasurer:** Elayne Pelz. **Registrar:** Joyce Hooper, Michelle Pincus, Arline Satin (tag team).

## Board of Directors

**Chairman:** Karl Lembke (2009). **Vice-Chairman:** Mike Thorsen (2007). **Comptroller:** Brett Achorn (2008). **Secretary:** George Van Wagner (2008) **Other members:** Merlin R. "Bob" Null (2009), Ed Green (2009), Tadao Tomomatsu (2009), Liz Mortensen (2007), Cathy Beckstead (2007), Bill Ellern (2008), Elayne Pelz (2008). **Special Advisor:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **Advisors:** Forrest J Ackerman, Len & June Moffatt, and Fred Patten.

### Official Committees

**De Profundis Editor:** Milt Stevens. **Speaker to Gestetner:** Marty Cantor. **Librarian:** Vanessa Van Wagner. **Assistant Librarians:** Elayne Pelz, Darnell Coleman. **LASFAPA/APA-L Liaison:** Marty Cantor. **Committee to Gouge Money from the LASFS:** C.B. McGuire, Elayne Pelz \*\* **Eulogist, Public Relations, Video Collection Curator, Film Coord. Committee, & Party Rabbi** (take a deep breath here): Charles Lee Jackson II. **Assistant Video Curators:** Doc Reames, Alison Stern. **Asian Affairs Desk:** Brett Achorn. **Key Control:** Liz Mortensen, Bob Null. Mike Thorsen. **Special Photographic Collection:** Mike Donahue. **Webmaster** - <[lasfs.org](mailto:lasfs.org)>: Scott Beckstead. **Sysadmin:** Chaz Baden. **Ministry of Silly Gavels:** Bob Null. \*\* **Committee for Children's Literature:** Anne Morrel, Editor; Greg Barrett, Facilitator. **Computers & LASFS Archives:** Bob Null. **Charity Coordinator:** Liz Mortensen. **LASFS Historian:** Fred Patten. **North Hollywood Arts District Liaison:** George Van Wagner. **Hagiography & Ecclesiastical Affairs:** Vanessa Van Wagner. **Westercon Liaison:** Ed Green. **Shaggy Editor:** Ed Green. **Program:** George Van Wagner, **Readings:** Vanessa Van Wagner, **Liaison to Enigma** (The UCLA SF Club not the German encryption machine) George Van Wagner

### Honorary Officers

**Master Sergeant-at-Arms In Perpetuity:** Roy Tackett. **Windmill-at-Arms:** Kees van Toorn. **Samurai-at-Arms:** Takumi Shibano. **Librarian-at-Arms:** Heather Stern.

---

## Board of Directors Elections

The following individuals were elected to the Board of Directors for the three year term from 2008 to 2010.

Arlene Satin

Milt Stevens

Mike Thorsen

\*\*\*        \*\*\*        \*\*\*

## New Books in the Library

Three novels by Philip Pullman,

*The Golden Compass*

*The Amber Spyglass*

*The Subtle Knife*

\*\*\*        \*\*\*        \*\*\*

## Next LAFA Filksing

Saturday, January 12, 2007, 7 pm  
Hosts: Sean & Linda (& Heather & Fiona) Cleary  
13637 Oxford Ct.  
(Number is on the right front side of the garage)  
Chino, CA

For Further LAFA Information  
Contact Lee and Barry Gold  
(310) 306-7456  
email [barrydgold@comcast.net](mailto:barrydgold@comcast.net)

## CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

(Copies of the complete minutes are filed in the archives.)

*LASFS Board of Directors  
Sunday, November 11, 2007  
Karl Lembke, Presiding  
George Van Wagner, Scribe*

Attending Board Members: Karl Lembke (Chairman), George Van Wagner (Secretary), Tadao Tomomatsu, , Brett Achorn (comptroller), Ed Green, Bill Ellern, Liz Mortensen, Bob Null, , Cathy Beckstead, Elayne Pelz ( procedural treasurer)

Absent: Mike Thorsen (vice-chair)

Others Attending: Milt Stevens, Tony Benoun, Heide Nichols, Vanessa Van Wagner, Joan Steward, Joyce Sperling, Michael Pell, Marty Cantor, Anne Morrell, Susan Gleason, Jenny Burke, Christian McGuire, Marcia Minsky, Arlene Satin, Barksdale Hales, Frank Waller, Sherri Benoun, Greg Bilan, Rob Powell, Rainey Smyth,

Meeting called to order at 11:14am with a new gavel which has been donated to the club. The Gavel carries a picture of the Masked Avenger and the inscription "In loving memory 01/07"

Minutes: Last paragraph first page correction of "\$30,000 thousand" to "\$30,000". Elayne Pelz and President were added as attending. The minutes were than approved with those corrections.

New Members: Robert J. Sawyer, Theresa Mather, David Reynolds, Dr. James Robinson, Steve Zerinsky of Hollywood, Mark Anthony of La Crescenta.

Treasurer: It being a month with no "q", the treasurer's report was succinct: we have 89 and a half thousand dollars. Don't spend it.

New Business: Tadao Tomomatsu has suggested the possibility of posting a sign with a code of conduct similar to ones seen in malls and other public venues (No skateboarding, no spitting, no admittance without trousers) Tadao was appointed ad hoc chair of committee to come up with code of conduct for the club and submit it to the Board.

---

**Long Range Planning:** Monday September 17, 2007 there was long range planning meeting. to begin the process of planning a structure for how we maintain the organization. Five board members showed up. A preliminary 10 year program was designed.

**1 year:** Change focus of meetings to something more people will enjoy. Make meetings more family friendly. More interaction and work with subgroups such as Cinema Anime. Revive Shaggy. Talk with the current editor about refocusing DeProf Get the website moving toward a more content driven, immediate, and useful.

**2.5 years:** Get more members involved with club events. Do more outside charity events.

**5 years:** More programming during the meetings that attracts and keeps members. Work towards becoming a usable resource for the SF and Fantasy community. Become one of top 50 genre websites.

**7.5 years:** Develop programs for nurturing pros and aspiring pros.

**10 years:** Create activities within the club that bring people in and keep them. Become a resource to fan community as a whole. Recruit people in 18 - 30 age group.

Everything we do for the first year is with an eye on ten years, as is done for Worldcon bids. Up to now we've been looking about a year out. The Board of Directors will need to work with the procedural side and other groups to advance this agenda. As such, there was some discussion of tweaking time of end of meeting/agenda light and how it dovetails with programming.

The Board resolved to adopt the long range plan. It will be published so that everyone will know about it and can participate in advancing it.

Resolved, the Board of Directors has established a 10 year long range plan for the LASFS. It is our intent to focus our efforts toward those goals which we believe will help the society. The plan is to be reviewed yearly during the November meeting. Ed Green wished to proffer thanks to Brett, Karl, and Liz for their help offline and to everybody who

showed up for the Sept. 17th meeting. The board voted to thank Ed for his work on this matter.

**Maintenance:** The Faces of Fandom picture is missing. It was there the Thursday before the board meeting, but was noticed missing Friday. This was brought to the attention of the membership. Items have disappeared from the APA-L room, the marketing kit, and the LaLaCon kit. It's time to re-key.

Neighbor - No new developments.

Cleaning - we have a new cleaner.

Roof - no new developments.

Asphalt - on hold until Century fund question is resolved.

Neighborhood children were observed playing with Clubhouse outdoor water faucets. These need to be secured.

Bob reminds that if the trees are shriveling, someone should go ahead and water.

**Miscellaneous Part the First:** Tony Benoun has donated some paper.

**Electronic Equipment:** Computers - one is being fixed. A/V - connections in the back of the amp are loose and there have been some audio problems. Brett and George will address this.

**Communications:**

**Website:** There was a discussion of the ongoing website problems. Board members have received conflicting information about the nature and source of the problem. There was a request to put a threshing session about the website and the possibility of putting up a wiki on the agenda for the next board meeting. What is being done to fix it? Can it be fixed? If not, what is the next step? We can solve problems and make improvements while acknowledging the hard work that everyone has put into it.

**Marketing Committee Report:** There will be a LASFS table at Loscon. Spino may do some magic at the table. Karen Anderson will be sitting there for

---

part of Loscon. Michele Pincus has joined the Marketing Team.

**Speaker to Gestetner:** No new developments. No lock for the power cord yet, in process.

**Soda Machine:** No report.

**Library:** There are two new volunteers, and we are still recruiting more. Librarian would prefer to limit the number of keys distributed.

Back to the code of conduct with a semi-hypothetical question: Two people tend to drift into inappropriate conversations. Librarian asks board okay on asking them to stop, then throwing them out? Board votes Librarian full authority to take any necessary actions, up to but excluding dismemberment, against anyone making guests or members uncomfortable. Several members offered librarian support in using the foam bat that she has previously used on one of the repeat offenders.

Adult reading list will be ready for distribution at Loscon.

**Archive:** No report.

**Institutional Memory Committee:**

**New Agenda Project:** Getting through reports quickly. What are the 30 second reports going to encompass? Certain roles will just get time to give their reports. Others, up to discretion of who gets assigned to a given task. Moving away from nuts and bolts, toward communicating with members and outside groups, and long range planning. There is a provision for one-off projects where someone just goes off and researches something for the board. When will this change take place? Introduced in January, when new Board officers come in, actually implemented in February. People running for Board spots are going to have to be willing to do work for the club beyond going to meetings. Each project area will have 30 seconds to sum up developments. If the Board needs to discuss it, it will go on the agenda, but usually that's not necessary. All tasks will have someone's name attached.

Is there a packet for incoming Board members? No, we lead them to the deep end of the pool and hand them an anchor. There should be. Who's name is on it? This probably ought to be an institutional memory/Board secretary project.

It was moved that the Board adopt this agenda and suggested positions and projects list, to be placed in effect in January.

Proposed New LASFS Board of Directors Agenda  
Add or amend the Board of Directors Standing Rules to reflect:

Section X. Order of Business

- (1) Call to Order,
- (2) Previous Minutes,
- (3) Directors & Friends 30 Second Project Reports,
- (4) Agenda Items,
  - (4a) Old Business,
  - (4b) Calendar Generated Items,
  - (4c) New Business,
- (5) Open Forum,
- (6) Adjournment.

The Chairman of the Board of Directors will cause the meeting agenda to be distributed at least one week before each meeting and cause the agenda to be posted for the general membership. This agenda will include items the Board has scheduled on their calendar, items designated for regular discussion, and items requested by a Director, member, or guest with the consent of the Board or Chairman.

The Chairman and Board has the discretion to add agenda items at any time as needed.

The calendar is simply a record of regularly scheduled agenda items, special agenda items, important events and deadlines, reminders, and other items as the Board sees fit.

**Directors and Friends 30 Second Project Reports:** each Director shall have a short time to report on developments of projects under their supervision as needed for the Board's or membership's attention or knowledge. Generally this time should not exceed thirty seconds, and certainly it should not exceed one minute. They may delegate part of their time to another person for simplicity. More detailed



reports should be submitted in writing and merely summarized. Discussion or lengthy reports should be reserved for the Agenda Items part of the meeting. The Chairman or Board may designate others who also have the privilege to make reports at this time, such as the President or Librarian.

**New Business:** at the end of any piece of new business that doesn't get completely resolved, it should get assigned to a Director to supervise or tabled for later action. This is a strong suggestion, not a rule.

**Open Forum:** any member can speak to the board on a topic that concerns them. Non-members may also speak with permission. A potential speaker may reserve time in advance with the consent of the Board or Chairman. An individual's time is generally limited to some standard length unless an arrangement has been made in advance. The overall time for Open Forum may also be limited.

During this time, the Board and others are not invited to respond. This forum isn't meant as an interactive discussion, though the Board may choose to add an agenda item for a later meeting.

Suggested positions and projects for 30 second reports

---

Not all projects need to be assigned if there is no need for them yet.

institutional roles:

- treasurer
- librarians
- president
- board secretary & keeper of the calendar
- board comptroller
- board chairman
- LOSCON chair

jobs:

- nuts and bolts
  - building and property maintenance
  - computers (equipment and computer room)
  - audio/visual equipment
  - remodeling projects \*
- tools and assets
  - archives

- website
- printing and publications
- member records (directory, phone tree, and mailing lists) \*
- outreach/inreach (core work/communication)
- marketing
- Westercon liason
- town council
- event overlords (LaLa, yard sale)
- fannish outreach \*
- community service \*
- neighborhood relations \*
- how we work and where we're going (process and planning)
- institutional memory
- long term planning
- odds and ends
  - research and report (legal advice, special purchase pricing)

\* suggestions, not doing this yet

**Events:**

**Loscon 34:** The Chair is back. There are currently over 700 members. Progress report 4 just went out. The program book is at the bindery. Publicity is cranking. Adam Wills is working on the press releases. Promotion as a family event: We did get some members as a result of the Archeology Day contacts made with local teachers. Children's programming will be extended into evening hours. There will be a cabaret/talent show at the Masquerade half-time instead of Lux Theater, who have another obligation that night. Revival of the idea of making LOSCON GOH an honorary member of the LASFS. The sense of the Board about honorary memberships is that the problems caused will outweigh any marketing benefits, if there are, in fact, any to be had. It's not worth ticking off pros whose websites get more hits than ours does. Membership of GOH can be handled by the individual concom, who are free to pay the \$5 if they choose.

**Loscon 35:** No report.

**Diamond Anniversary Committee:** No report.

**LaLaCon:** No report.

---

Miscellaneous Part the 2nd: The Board approved Chaz Boston-Baden and Anime Los Angeles borrowing some portable resources of the LASFS (buckets, carts, et cetera) in exchange for their usual generous donation. Anime LA is offering their sign-holders to Loscon.

**Take-Aways:**

Tadao: code of conduct

Bob and Elayne: rekeying the building

Brett: Emailing the new agenda and proposed task lists to the secretary

George: Board orientation packet

George and Brett: investigate AV cable problem, coordinate on website

Tony and Bob will address the problem of securing the outdoor water faucets.

**Adjourned:**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56

*Meeting #3666, November 15, 2007*

*President: Marcia Minsky*

*Scribe: Joe Zeff*

The beastly meeting was called to order by President Minsky at 8:13.51 PM. This being LASFS, it took some small amount of time for the members to realize that the meeting had started and act accordingly.

**Special Orders of Business:** Ira Levin, who wrote Rosemary's Baby and The Stepford Wives passed away this week at the age of 78. There was a brief moment of silence.

As the most important part of this week's meeting is Elections for the Board of Directors, we went directly to Old Business. We did not pass Go, we did not collect \$200. We did, however, have the reading of the minutes, and after two corrections, one by the scribe himself, were approved as The Director's cut of these minutes, better than any previous cut but with the voiceover still attached. Don't ask, because I won't tell.

**Old Business:** Board Elections. Elected were Mike Thorsen, Milt Stevens and Arlene Satin. Congratulations and condolences, as appropriate.

**Patron Saints:** John Trimble. He's good to his

mother, according to Charlie Jackson. Len Moffatt said he used to be such a good beer drinker that he'd come in to parties with his hand wrapped around the beer bottle he hadn't received yet. He was active in founding the SCA up in Oakland, as a fighter and herald. He was given three cheers and a ship.

**Milt Stevens.** He's a long-time member and served admirably as Chairman of the Board. Currently, he's in charge of De Prof. Arlene called him "the sweetest, nicest guy." He was a Communications Officer of the USS Coral Sea. He was once a civilian employee of the LAPD, and had the most fascinating stories. He was one of the casualties in "Fandom Is A Way of Death", and made the person who killed him promise not to do it again. He was given three cheers and condolences.

**Guests:** we had one who requested to remain anonymous.

**Treasurer's Report:** we have money that we can't spend.

**Science Report:** Earth grazing asteroid 2007 VN84 has been identified as the space probe Rosetta, and has been removed from the list of asteroids.

**New Business:** none.

**Announcements:** The One Laptop per child foundation is offering to sell them for \$399 until the end of the year. You get one, a child gets the other. Ray Bradburry will be at the Woodland Hills Library December 1. Time Meddlers will be having its annual Auction at its next meeting here, December 16. A pair of planemoes, planets orbiting each other with no star, have been discovered. One of them appears to be a failed brown dwarf.

**Miscellaneous:** Comet Holmes is now larger in size than the Sun. It's coma has expanded so far that it's currently the biggest object in the system.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 PM.

**Late Breaking News:** Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle have finished writing Inferno II.



**De Profundis**  
**c/o The Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society**  
**11513 Burbank Blvd.**  
**North Hollywood, CA 91601**  
**USA**

**DATED MATERIAL**  
**PLEASE RUSH**